

Appl No. 09/897,921
Amtd. Dated August 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 18, 2005

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of routing traffic, comprising:

- (a) identifying a first point and a second point located defining ends of an existing route on at least one existing road on a tract of land from where traffic is to be routed;
- (b) identifying a body of water proximate to the tract of land, the body of water defining a shoreline along an edge of the tract of land adjacent the body of water, the shoreline having a shoreline length generally spanning the distance between the first and second points, the body of water being suitable for supporting a further road for routing the traffic;
- (c) locating the further road through the body of water only to span the tract of land, the further road having a road length generally spanning the distance between the first and second points, the further road extending through the body of water generally adjacent over its length to the shoreline of the body of water and the tract of land so that the further road and the shoreline are [is] generally parallel over its length to the shoreline along their respective lengths, the further road being located above the body of water; and
- (d) linking the further road to the first point and the second point so that the further road extends only through the body of water to provide an alternate route to the at least one existing road route.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein step d) further comprises linking the further road to the at least one existing road at at least one intermediate location between the first and the second point

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Claims 3-5 (Canceled)

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the further road is a bridge.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the further road is a floating road.

Claims 8-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the road length of the further road is ~~substantially the same or~~ greater than the ~~at least one existing road route~~ between said points

Claim 19. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein the further road is linked to the first and second points by a first link and a second link, respectively, and wherein the road length of the further road combined with the length of the first and second links defines an alternate route length, the alternate route length being generally equal to or greater than the length of the existing route between the first and second points.